

**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON**

Executive Registry

84-1359

CABINET AFFAIRS STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 3/15/84 **Number:** ----- **Due By:** -----

Subject: Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture Minutes:

February 24, 1984

ALL CABINET MEMBERS	Action	FYI		Action	FYI
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CEQ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	OSTP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jenkins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McFarlane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Svahn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Counsellor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>CIA</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCCT/Gunn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GSA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCEA/Porter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EPA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCFA/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OPM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCHR/Simmons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
VA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCLP/Uhlmann	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SBA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCMA/Bledsoe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			CCNRE/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Attached for your information are the minutes of the February 24, 1984 meeting of the Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture.

RETURN TO:

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Assistant to the President
for Cabinet Affairs
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☐ Katherine Anderson
☐ Tom Gibson

☐ Don Clarey
☒ Larry Herbolzheimer

Associate Director
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CABINET COUNCIL ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

February 24, 1984

Participants: Block, Lyng, Feldstein, McCormack, Leonard, Leshner, Porter, Wright, Khedouri, Baroody, Brown, Hogate, Herbolsheimer, and Ms. Gall.

CM453. Mr. Block provided a brief summary of current conditions in agriculture and the prospects for the farming community in the months to come.

Mr. Block explained that, in keeping with the President's mandate to review and assess food and agriculture policies and programs, he had appointed a Cabinet Council Working Group on Future Food and Agriculture Policy and had directed it to secure public input into the decision making process and to prepare a list of policy options for Cabinet Council consideration.

Mr. Lyng, the chairman of the Working Group, described the proposed process for carrying out the tasks assigned to the Working Group. One aspect of the proposed process -- a series of public listening sessions to be conducted by USDA -- raised concern among some of those present.

Mssrs. Baroody and Khedouri expressed concern that listening sessions would provide opportunities for critics to disparage our agricultural policies. They stated that even with the most careful preparation, USDA could not control how the media would portray the sessions and the Administration.

Mssrs. Block, Lyng, Wright, Porter, and Leonard stated that the listening sessions were an integral part of the process in that they shielded the Administration from the attack that farm policy was being made behind closed doors. They acknowledged that there was some risk to holding public listening sessions in an election year, but they were convinced that the sessions could be conducted in a way to minimize the possibility of bad publicity.

Mr. Khedouri suggested that USDA conduct a couple of listening sessions and then assess their usefulness before proceeding with additional sessions. There was unanimous agreement that this was the best way to proceed.

Mr. Brown requested that the Working Group look into two subjects: long-term weather forecasting and the use of food as a positive tool for supporting foreign policy.